The photograph in HF Happenings 517 was taken in Burgersdorp in the North-Eastern Cape. This is a view of the Reformed Church in town.

SARL HF Digital Contest

The aim of the HF Contests is for participants to tact as many amateurs in Southern Africa (General Rules para 1.b.) as possible on 20, 40 and 80 metres. The SARL HF Digital contest will be run from 13:00 to 16:00 UTC [15:00 to 18:0 CAT] on Sunday 19 August with PSK31 and RTTY activity on 14 070 to 14 099 kHz; 7 040 to 7 060 and 3 580 to 3 600 kHz.

PSK31 is preferred at the lower end of the specified frequencies and RTTY is preferred at the upper end of the specified frequencies. Please note that USB must be used at all times. Refer to General Rule #16

Participation can be as a a) Single Operator Single Band; b) Single Operator All Band; c) Multi Operator Single Band or d) Multi Operator All Band. Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete. The exchange is a RST report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001.

Each digital QSO counts 3 point. Count two points for each area (see below) on each band and count 2 points for each station contacted on all three bands.

The areas are - Area 1: ZS1 Western Cape; Area 2: ZS2 Eastern Cape; Area 3: ZS3 Northern Cape; Area 4: ZS4 Free State; Area 5: ZS5 KwaZulu-Natal; Area 6: ZS6 Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North West; Area 7: 3B8 Mauritius, 3DA Swaziland, 7P Lesotho, 7Q Malawi, C9 Mozambique, Z2 Zimbabwe, 5R Madagascar, FR Reunion Island and FH Mayotte and Area 8: 9J Zambia, A2 Botswana, D2 Angola, V5 Namibia, ZD9 Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands, ZS7 Antarctica and ZS8 Marion Island. Contacts with stations outside these areas are allowed, QSO points may be claimed but no zone or three-bander points may be claimed.

Certificates are awarded to the first three places and the highest single band score in each contest. There is also a trophy for the highest combined score in three contests.

Logs must be sent to the Bloemfontein ARC, Box 33211, Fichardt Park, 9317 or by e-mail to zs4bfn@netactive.co.za by Sunday 26 August.

2012 SARL Winter QRP Results

For the SARL Winter QRP contest held on 21 July, the committee received 15 logs and 1 check log. The results are as follows:

1st Gerrit Rautenbach, ZS2XD – 2 436 points
2nd Lukas Holtzhuizen, ZS6LH - 1 560 points
3rd Andre Botes, ZS2ACP - 1 452 points
4th Pierre van Deventer, ZS6A - 1 404 points
5th West Rand ARC, ZS6WR - 1 110 points
6th Christo van Rensberg, ZS3R - 1 060 points
7th Kenneth Gurr, ZR5KW/6 - 738 points
8th Pam Momberg, ZS6APT - 720 points
9th Christo Kriek ZR6LJK - 656 points
10th Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE - 462 points
11th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC - 384 points
12th Marius Snyman, ZR6MS - 288 points
13th Peet Pretorius, ZS4VP - 228 points
14th Dennis Green, ZS4BS - 180 points (operating QRP from KG20td, KG20tc, KG20ub and KF29vx)
15th Nigel Burgess, ZR6NGB - 160 points

Check log - Derek Stuart, ZS2J - 56 points
Congratulations to Gerrit for his achievement. It just goes to show what can be achieved if you go the extra mile.

A new CQ World Wide Contest rule

There is a new CQ World Wide Contest rule: "13. Post-contest correcting of call signs by using any database, recordings or confirming QSOs is not allowed (Rule XII.2 always applies)" reads the new language in the CQ rules.

From the radio-sport.net article about the rule change, "The message there is very clear, that post-contest log cleanup by using outside aid - whether it is call sign databases or recordings of the contest are now clearly considered against the rules."

Let us not make this too complicated - identify your station, log what is sent, send the complete exchange, and do not change your log after the contest except for notes made during the contest period. Period.

Propagation forecast app

DroidProp is a propagation forecast app for the HF bands, based on VOCAP (Voice of America Coverage Analysis Program). It calculates the current and future HF propagation condi-

August
5 – SARL HF Phone Contest
9 – National Women's Day; SARL YL Sprint
9 to 11 – Schreiner Karoo Writers festival, Cradock; Oppikoppi, Northam, Limpopo
10 – School holiday
11 – Fort Notingham Highland Games, Fort Nothingham
10 to 12 – The Ross Taylor Benefit Surf Contest, Knysna; Slow 2012, Robertson
18 – World Geocaching Day
18 and 19 – International Light-house and Lightship Weekend
19 – SARL HF Digital Contest
19 – Oude Molen Distillery Mountain Bike Challenge, Elgin Valley
24 and 25 – Hantam Meat Festival, Calvinia
24 to 31 – Clanwilliam Wild Flower Show
26 – SARL HF CW Contest
31 Aug to 2 Sept – Winter Festival, Williston

September
1 – ZS6JVT 40 m Youth Contest
1 to 7 – National Arbour Week
5 – Secretaries Day
15 and 16 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest
16 – World Ozone Day
21 – Closing date October RAE
24 – Heritage Day; SARL Heritage Day Contest
26 – SARL Club Contest, SSB
27 – World Tourism Day
28 – Schools close

If you are attending any events, take your amateur radio with and spread the word about our hobby!

tions on the device; an internet connection is only needed for updating the solar data. It is currently still in beta state but fully functional. Download (free) and information at https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.schaeuble.droidprop

2E0EYP and M1EYP complete England!

Father and son team Tom Read, M1EYP, and Jimmy Read, 2E0EYP, have 'completed England' in Summits on the Air.

Tom and Jimmy can now claim to have activated each of the 176 summits currently in the English (G) SOTA Association, and six more that were previously valid.

Tom, who had been activating in SOTA since 2002, needed to revisit many of the completed hills after his son Jimmy became licensed (originally as M3EYP) in 2005, and expressed his ambition to activate all the same hills as his dad! Since then, the duo have visited all hilly and mountainous areas of England, and completed all the SOTA regions: Southern Pennine (SP), Welsh Borders (WB), Devon & Cornwall (DC), South Central (SC), Southern England (SE), Central England (CE), Tees to the Wash (TW), Scottish Borders (SB), Northern Pennines (NP) and Lake District (LD).

Tom and Jimmy have also activated a further 104 summits in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland over the last seven years, and retain ambitions to visit many more, including those in the Isle of Man. The pair from Macclesfield in Cheshire are both holders of the SOTA Mountain Goat award for achieving 1 000 activator points in the programme, and walked the full-length Pennine Way (268 miles) in 2006 as part of their SOTA activities.

The final summit needed to complete the association was Harter Fell (Eskdale) G/LD-028, 654 m ASL. This took place on Sunday 29 July 2012, after a steep ascent from Dunnerdale. Jimmy operated using his special Olympic Games call sign of 2O0EYP/P and made 33 contacts on 2 m FM using a Yaesu VX-110 transceiver and 3-element SOTA Beam antenna. Tom also used a special Olympics call sign - MO1EYP/P - and made 40 contacts, mainly on 40 m CW. Tom's working conditions were 5 watts from a Yaesu FT-817 into an inverted V dipole antenna.

Jimmy is the Association Manager for the SOTA programme in England, so it is a particularly proud achievement for him to have activated all of its summits. The pair have a website on which a photo journal of all their SOTA activations can be seen. This includes each of the 182 English summits, and all of the 286 UK summits so far activated. The website is at http://tomread.co.uk. For more information about the Summits on the Air programme, please visit http://www.sota.org.uk

Analysing the 2011 CQ World Wide contests

Stan EI6DX/UA1OUT has just released a big report analysing the 2011 CQ World Wide contests. The website has a "live" analyser and there are many statistics on the contests from 2007 to 2011 that make fascinating reading.

http://www.ei6dx.com/cqww-contest-analysis/analytics-cqww-2007-11/

Bob, N6TV, finds, "...to me the most useful and fun is to see the band openings to a specific area, from a specific area and gives the following instructions:

1. From the EI6DX website, launch the analyser
http://www.ei6dx.com/cqww-contest-analysis/cqww-activity-analyzer/
2. On the *Source* tab, uncheck *All Zones Available*
3. Click on the little arrow next to *North America* (not the checkbox) to expand the list

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4. Select your CQ WW Zone
5. Click on the *Destination* tab and pick any area using the same method, e.g. Europe or Japan
6. Click the *Refresh* button
7. At the bottom of the graph, click the last button to Maximize Chart
8. Click the next button to the left, *Show/Hide Configuration View*
9. Change Aggregation Interval to 10 minutes and pick any band you want, click Apply to see more detailed band openings
10. Other buttons let produce a nice rate sheet grid instead of graph.

All Nine Azores Islands, CU1 to CU9, Activated At Once

Are you ready to fly to the Azores for free by making nine QSOs?

Yes indeed, those of you willing to spend 24 hours or less on the radio are eligible to participate in an Azores lottery for two all-paid packages to the beautiful Azores Islands in the Atlantic, completely free of charge. The project is organised by the Azores - Finland Friendship Consortium in partnership with the Amateur Radio Associations of the Azores Islands and supported by the Azores Promotion Agency (ATA) and Azorean Airlines (SATA). Just look at www.visitazores.com and make up your mind.

Not many people know that the Azores consist of nine populated islands, stretching over a distance of 602 km from East to West, next to the USA and Europe. Moreover, it is not widely known that the Azores have their own airline (SATA) flying to each island, in addition to many destinations in Europe and North America. Each island has its own characteristics and its own blend and alone qualifies for your visit there. While these islands count for a single DXCC entity, they offer three (3) IOTA groupings – EU-003, EU-089 and EU-175.

With this unique AZORES 9 ISLANDS HUNT, an invited international group of amateur radio operators together with resident Azores amateurs will be activating the nine islands, offering an opportunity to the world to contact these islands all at once over one weekend.

Activity Weekend

12:00 UTC Saturday 29 September 12:00 UTC Sunday 30 September (24 hours). These stations will be active starting Friday 28 September 28 as soon as they become operational.

Frequency Windows

CW: 7 000 – 7 015, 14 050 – 14 065 and 18 080 – 18 090 kHz
SSB: 7 175 – 7 195, 14 250 – 14 275 and 18 120 – 18 135 kHz

Nine Islands and their Stations

Santa Maria, CU1ARM; San Miguel, CU2ARA; Terceira, CU3URA; Graciosa, CU4ARG; Sao Jorge, CU5AM; Pico, CU6GRP; Faial, CU7CRA; Flores, CU8ARF, and Corvo, CU9AC.

Operators and Island Hosts

Sergio, CU1AAD; Jose, CU2CE; Francisco, CU2DX; Guilherme, CU2IF; Domingois, CU3CS; Guilherme, CU4AB; Jose, CU5AM; Jorge, CU6AB; Manuel, CU7CA; Claudio, CU8AAE; Joao, CU9AC; Franz, DJ9ZB; Richard, DF9TF; Nigel, G3TXF; Michael, G7VJR; Diane, K2DO; Rich, KE3Q; Mike, KI1U; Marius, LB3HC; George, N2GA; Martti, OH2BH; Juha, OH8NC; Ghis, ON5NT; Carine, ON7LX; Claude, ON7TK; Alex, OZ7AM; Kenneth, OZ1IKY; Yuri, VE3DZ, and Ed, VE3FWA.

Two Hunt Awards

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Those making a QSO with at least 5 different islands will have a corresponding number of tickets placed into a lottery for a free trip to the Azores (e.g. if you have QSOs with 7 islands, you will get 7 lottery tickets). Additionally, the first 25 operators making QSOs with all 9 islands will be eligible for a second lottery. The free trips are from the closest airport served by SATA; including flight, accommodation and transfers.

During or immediately after the weekend, the logs will be posted on Club Log to display your band/mode slots. The lottery will be drawn on 15 October 2012.

QSL Cards
All QSOs will be confirmed through the bureau network with special full-colour cards. Direct QSL requests via Jose Melo, CU2CE.

Word to the Wise

Lockout - a device, hardware or software, that prevents a multi-operator, single-transmitter entry from transmitting more than one signal at a time.

African DX

Mauritania, 5T0. A group of Polish radio amateurs, SP2EBG, SP3CYY, SP3GEM, SP6EQZ, SP3FXY and SP6IXF, with the special participation of Jean, 5T0JL, will be active as 5T0SP between 24 November and 10 December from Mauritania. Activity will be on all HF bands, 160 - 10 metres using CW, SSB an RTTY. There will be a focus on JA and Far East. A Web page is currently under construction at http://www.5t0sp.dxing.pl

African Islands

5R8FL QSL route change. Phil, G3SWH, reports: "It is with great regret that I have to announce that Andreas, 5R8FL, has terminated my QSL managership of his station with effect from the end of July 2012. I have his logs up to the end of June 2012 and am awaiting the log for July. I will be uploading the latest logs to LoTW and to the search facility on my web site in the next few weeks. I have plenty of proper QSL cards left. I have been given no reason for the termination and have no information as to whether Andreas has made any alternative arrangements for confirming his future QSOs."

Special Event Stations

Belgium, ON. The special event station ON4YOTA (Youngsters on the Air) will be on the air during the Youth Camp organised by UBA and VERON from 19 to 26 August. QSL via ON9CFG. http://www.iaru-r1.org

Great Britain and France. GB175PO and TM175PO are special event call signs operated from Dover and Calais to commemorate the 175th jubilee of the P&O ferries. Operation will take place throughout August, occasionally from the ferries.

Contest Calendar
This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 13 to 20 August 2012.

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
00:30 - 02:30 UTC 15 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once
Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 18 August 2012
E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net
Upload log at: http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html
Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA
Find rules at: http://naqcc.info/sprint201208.html

QRP Fox Hunt
01:00 - 02:30 UTC 17 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 20 m Only
Classes: Single Op – fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 18 August 2012
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 17 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 19 August 2012
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)

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Find rules at: http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

SARTG WW RTTY Contest
00:00 - 08:00 UTC and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 18 August and 08:00 - 16:00 UTC 19 August
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op All Band Low Power; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Single; SWL
Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with same country; 10 points per QSO with same continent; 15 points per QSO with different continent
Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band;Each VK, VE, JA, W call area once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 10 October 2012
E-mail logs to: contest@sartg.com
Mail logs to: SARTG Contest Manager, Ewe Hakansson, SM7BHM, Pilspetsvagen 4, SE-29166, Kristianstad, Sweden
Find rules at: http://www.sartg.com/contest/wwrules.htm

Russian District Award Contest
08:00 UTC 18 August to 08:00 UTC 19 August
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: SOAB Mixed Mode - high or low; SOAB Mixed Mode Field; SOAB CW - high or low; SOAB CW Field; SOAB SSB - high or low; SOAB SSB Field; Multi-Single Mixed Mode; Multi-Single Mixed Mode Field; SWL
Exchange: RU: RS(T) and district code; non-RU: RS(T) and QSO no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: RU: 1 point per QSO with same country; RU: 2 points per QSO with same country, different continent; RU: 3 points per QSO with different country, same continent; RU: 5 points per QSO with different country, different continent; RU: 10 points per QSO between Field entrants; non-RU: 10 points per QSO with RU station
Multipliers: RU Stations: Each DXCC country once per band and each RDA district once only; non-RU Stations: Each RDA district once only
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 19 September 2012
E-mail logs to: rx3rc@rdaward.org
Mail logs to: Roman A. Novikov, PO Box 21, 392000 Tambov, Russia
Find rules at: http://rdaward.org/rdac1.htm

Keyman's Club of Japan Contest
12:00 UTC 18 August to 12:00 UTC 19 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op Multiband; Single Op Single Band (JA Only); SWL
Exchange: JA: RST and prefecture/district code; non-JA: RST and continent code

QSO Points: JA Station: 1 point per QSO with JA station; JA Station: 5 points per QSO with DX station; DX Station: 1 point per QSO with JA station
Multipliers: Each JA prefecture once per band; JA Station: Each continent once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 19 September 2012
E-mail logs to: kcj-log@kcj-cw.com
Mail logs to: H. Shiraki, 5-93-1 Goudo, Gifu-City, Gifu 501-0105, Japan
Find rules at: http://www.kcj-cw.com/contest/12_kcj_contest_rule_e.pdf

North American SSB QSO Party
18:00 UTC 18 August to 0600Z 19 August
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op – QRP or low; Multi-Two - low
Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours; Multi-Two: 12 hours
Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 1 September 2012
Upload log at: http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplogsubmit.php
Mail logs to: Bill Lippert, AC0W, 2013 6th Avenue SE, Austin, MN 55912-4321, USA
Find rules at: http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php

CVA DX CW Contest
21:00 UTC 18 August to 21:00 UTC 19 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op – QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band – low or high; Multi-Single
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and type/UF (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each UF once per band; Each country once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 September 2012
E-mail logs to: cw@craec.org
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.craec.org

SARL HF Digital Contest
13:00 - 16:00 UTC 19 August
Mode: RTTY, PSK31
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

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Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op All Band; Multi-Op Single Band; SWL
Exchange: RST and serial no
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 27 August 2012
E-mail logs to: zs4bfn@netactive.co.za
Mail logs to: Bloemfontein RAC, Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324, South Africa
Find rules at:
http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/SARL_2012_Contest_Manual_issue_10.pdf

ARRL Rookie RTTY Roundup
18:00 – 23:59 UTC 19 August
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op Rookie; Multi-Op Rookie; Non-Rookies
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name, 2-digit year first licensed and state, province, XE area or DX
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-rookie; 2 points per QSO with rookie
Multipliers: Each US state and DC once; Each VE province once; Each XE call area once; One DX once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 22 August 2012
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.b4h.net/arrlrr/rr_scoresubmission.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
01:00 - 03:00 UTC 20 August
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Band; All Band
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 26 August 2012
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

Next Week's Contests

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SKCC Sprint 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 22 August
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 22 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 23 August
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 24 August
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 24 August
Hawaii QSO Party, 04:00 UTC 25 August to 22:00 UTC 26 August
SCC RTTY Championship, 12:00 UTC 25 August to 11:59 UTC 26 August
Kansas QSO Party, 14:00 UTC 25 August to 02:00 UTC 26 August and 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 26 August
QRP ARCI Welcome to QRP, 15:00 - 18:00 UTC 25 August
Ohio QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 25 August to 04:00 UTC 26 August
CVA DX SSB Contest, 21:00 UTC 25 August to 21:00 UTC 26 August
SARL HF CW Contest, 13:00 - 16:00 UTC 26 August

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 13 August 2012.

1587 - Virginia Dare, the first English child born in the New World
1743 - Earliest boxing code of rules formulated in England - Jack Broughton
1787 - W Herschel discovers Enceladus, a moon of Saturn
1807 - Robert Fulton's steamboat Clermont begins its first trip up Hudson River
1841 - John Hampson patents the venetian blind
1870 - The US Transcontinental Railway actually completed
1896 – The Dial telephone patented

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC